

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended): A method of ~~data processing on a computer system~~, comprising:

using an **electronic** application program to compose an electronic version of a document;

~~printing~~ **providing** the document onto **a substrate**, ~~paper~~, the ~~printed~~ **provided substrate** ~~paper~~ being steganographically encoded with plural-bit auxiliary data, **the steganographically encoded plural-bit auxiliary data is substantially imperceptible to casual human inspection, but is detectable through visible light imaging of the document and processing of image data thereby produced**; and

storing at least some of the plural-bit auxiliary data in association with data identifying a location at which the electronic version of the document is stored.

2. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~printing~~ **providing** includes steganographically encoding the ~~printed~~ **provided substrate** ~~paper~~ with said plural-bit auxiliary data.

3. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said storing includes storing in a registry database maintained by an operating system of **a** ~~said~~ computer system.

4. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said storing is performed by the application program.

5. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said storing is performed by a computer system operating system.

6. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said storing is performed by a printer driver employed in printing the document onto a substrate ~~paper~~.

7. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the steganographic encoding of the ~~printed paper~~ **provided substrate** comprises subtle variations in the luminance of the document, ~~which are substantially imperceptible to casual human inspection, but which are detectable through visible light imaging of the document and processing of image data thereby produced.~~

8. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the steganographic encoding takes the form of tiny elements of ink or toner distributed in a pattern so light as to be essentially un-noticeable.

9. (new): The method of claim 1 wherein the plural-bit auxiliary data is encoded such that decoding of the encoded plural-bit auxiliary data relies on a Fourier transform that produces data in which scale and rotation can be ignored.

10. (new): The method of claim 9 wherein the Fourier transform comprises a Fourier-Mellin transform.

11. (new): The method of claim 1 wherein the plural-bits of auxiliary data are steganographically encoded with digital watermarking.